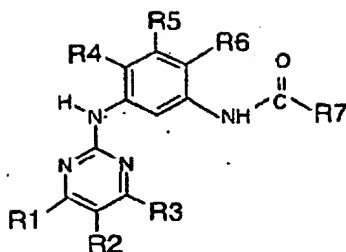


**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

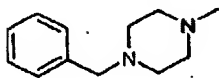
1. (Original) A method for treating type II diabetes, obesity and related disorders comprising administering a compound capable of depleting mast cells or a compound inhibiting mast cells degranulation in a human in need of such treatment.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 for treating type II diabetes comprising administering a c-kit inhibitor to a human in need of such treatment.
3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said ~~e-kit inhibitor~~ c-kit inhibitor is a non- toxic, selective and potent c-kit inhibitor wherein it is unable to promote death of IL-3 dependent cells cultured in presence of IL-3.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 1 or 3~~ claim 1 wherein said inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of:
  - 2-(3-amino) arylamino-4-aryl-thiazoles,
  - pyrimidine derivatives, more particularly N-phenyl-2-pyrimidine-amine derivatives,
  - indolinone derivatives, more particularly pyrrol-substituted indolinones,
  - monocyclic, bicyclic aryl and heteroaryl compounds,
  - and quinazoline derivatives.
5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of N-phenyl-2-pyrimidine-amine derivatives having the formula II:



Wherein R2 and R3 are independently chosen from H, F, Cl, Br, I, a C1-C5 alkyl or a cyclic or heterocyclic group, especially a pyridyl group;

R4, R5 and R6 are independently chosen from H, F, Cl, Br, I, a C1-C5 alkyl, especially a methyl group;

and R7 is a phenyl group bearing at least one substituent, which in turn possesses at least one basic site, such as an amino function, preferably the following group:



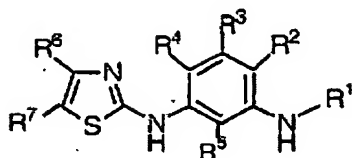
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein said inhibitor is the ~~4-(4-methylpiperazine-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridine-3-yl)pyrimidine-2-ylamino]phenyl-benzamide~~ 4-(4-methylpiperazine-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridine-3-yl)pyrimidine-2-ylamino]phenyl-benzamide.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 3 to 6~~, claim 3, wherein said c-kit inhibitor is an inhibitor of activated c-kit.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said inhibitor is capable of inhibiting constitutively activated-mutant c-kit.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 7, wherein said activated c-kit inhibitor is capable of inhibiting SCF-activated c-kit.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said c-kit inhibitor is selected from compounds belonging to the 2-(3-amino)arylamino-4-aryl-thiazoles of formula III:



FORMULA III

and wherein R<sup>1</sup> is:

- a) a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, notably a halogen selected from I, Cl, Br and F, and/or bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality;
- b) an aryl or heteroaryl group optionally substituted by an alkyl or aryl group optionally substituted with a heteroatom, notably a halogen selected from I, Cl, Br and F or bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality;
- c) a-CO-NH-R, -CO-R, -CO-OR or a-CO-NRR' group, wherein R and R' are independently chosen from H or an aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl and cycloalkyl group optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, notably a halogen selected from I, Cl, Br and F, and/or bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>6</sup> is one of the following:

- (i) an aryl group such as phenyl or a substituted variant thereof bearing any combination, at any one ring position, of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy;
- (ii) a heteroaryl group such as a 2, 3, or 4-pyridyl group, which may additionally bear any combination of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl and alkoxy;
- (iii) a five-membered ring aromatic heterocyclic group such as for example 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, which may additionally bear any combination of one or more substituents such as halogen, an alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy,
- iv) H, a halogen selected from I, F, Cl or Br; NH<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> or SO<sub>2</sub>-R, wherein R is a linear or branched alkyl group containing one or more group such as 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, notably a halogen selected from I, Cl, Br and F, and/or bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality;

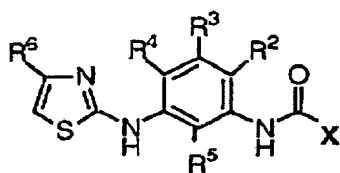
and R<sup>7</sup> is one of the following:

- (i) an aryl group such as phenyl or a substituted variant thereof bearing any combination, at any one ring position, of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy;
- (ii) a heteroaryl group such as a 2, 3, or 4-pyridyl group, which may additionally bear any combination of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl and alkoxy;
- (iii) a five-membered ring aromatic heterocyclic group such as for example 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, which may additionally bear any combination of

one or more substituents such as halogen, an alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy,

iv) H, a halogen selected from I, F, Cl or Br; NH<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> or SO<sub>2</sub>-R, wherein R is a linear or branched alkyl group containing one or more group such as 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, notably a halogen selected from I, Cl, Br and F, and/or bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said c-kit inhibitor is selected from compounds belonging to the 2-(3-amino)arylamino-4-aryl-thiazoles of formula IV:



FORMULA IV

wherein X is R or NRR' and wherein R and R' are independently chosen from H, an aryl, an heteroaryl, an alkyl and a cycloalkyl group optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, such as for example a halogen chosen from F, I, Cl and Br and optionally bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality; or an aryl, an heteroaryl, an alkyl and a cycloalkyl group substituted with an aryl, an heteroaryl, an alkyl and a cycloalkyl group optionally substituted with at least one heteroatom, such as for example a halogen chosen from F, I, Cl and Br and optionally bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality,

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, halogen or a linear or branched alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl or alkoxy;

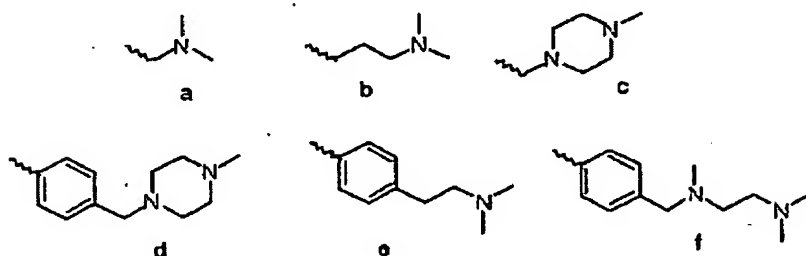
R<sup>6</sup> is one of the following:

(i) an aryl group such as phenyl or a substituted variant thereof bearing any combination, at any one ring position, of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy;

(ii) a heteroaryl group such as a 2, 3, or 4-pyridyl group, which may additionally bear any combination of one or more substituents such as halogen, alkyl groups containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl and alkoxy;

(iii) a five-membered ring aromatic heterocyclic group such as for example 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, which may additionally bear any combination of one or more substituents such as halogen, an alkyl group containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, trifluoromethyl, and alkoxy.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein X is a substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group bearing a pendant basic nitrogen functionality represented for example by the structures a to f shown below, wherein the wavy line corresponds to the point of attachment to core structure of formula IV:



13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein said c-kit inhibitor is selected from:

- 4- Diethylaminomethyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-morpholin-4-ylmethyl-benzamide,
- 4- Dipropylaminomethyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-benzamide,
- 3-Iodo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridine-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-Hydroxymethyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4- {[4-Methyl-3(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylamino]-methyl}-benzoic acid methyl ester,
- 3-Phenyl-propynoic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-amide,
- 4-Amino-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 2-Iodo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-Iodo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-(3- {4-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbamoyl]-phenyl}-ureido)-benzoic acid ethyl ester,

- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ureido]-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- {4-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbamoyl]-benzyl} carbamic acid tert-butyl ester,
- 4-Hydroxy-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-[(Diisopropylamino)-methyl]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-(3-thiophen-2-yl-ureido)-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(3,5-Dimethyl-isoxazol-4-yl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(4-Difluoromethoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- Thiophene-2-sulfonic acid 4-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)phenylcarbamoyl]-phenyl ester,
- 4-Iodo-benzenesulfonic acid 4-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbamoyl]-phenyl ester,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl-benzamide,



- 3-Methyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-3-trifluoromethyl-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(2,4-Dimethoxy-phenyl)-ureido] N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-[3-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ureidomethyl]-benzamide,
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-[3-(3,4,5-trimethoxy-phenyl)-ureido]-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(2-Iodo-phenyl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 4-[3-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-ureido]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide,
- 2-Fluoro-benzenesulfonic acid 4-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbamoyl]-phenyl ester,
- 3-Fluoro-benzenesulfonic acid 4-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbamoyl]-phenyl ester,
- 2-(2-methyl-5-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)phenyl-4-(3-pyridyl)-thiazole,
- 2-(2-methyl-5-amino)phenyl-4-(3-pyridyl)-thiazole
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-phenyl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide

- N-[3-([2,4']Bithiazolyl-2'-ylamino)-4-methyl-phenyl]-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide,
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyrazin-2-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 2-[5-(3-Iodo-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-phenylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester
- 2-{2-Methyl-5-[4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzoylamino]-phenylamino}thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester
- N-[4-Chloro-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 3-Bromo-N-{3-[4-(4-chloro-phenyl)-5-methyl-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methylphenyl}-benzamide
- {3-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-5-methyl-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-carbamic acid isobutyl ester
- 2-[5-(3-Bromo-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-phenylamino]-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester
- 2-[5-(3-Bromo-benzoylamino)-2-methyl-phenylamino]-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid (2-dimethylamino-ethyl)-amide
- N-{3-[4-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-{4-methyl-3-[4-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-phenyl}-benzamide
- N-{4-Methyl-3-[4-(3-nitro-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide

- N-{3-[4-(2,5-Dimethyl-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 3-Bromo-4-methyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-Fluoro-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3,5-Dibromo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-piperidin-1-ylmethyl-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-Cyano-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-Fluoro-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-urea
- 1-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-3-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-urea

- 1-(3-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-urea
- 1-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-3-p-tolyl-urea
- 3-Bromo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-(thiophene-2-sulfonylamino)-benzamide
- 3-Fluoro-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide
- 4-Dimethylamino-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 2-Fluoro-5-methyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-tert-Butyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-Isopropoxy-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- Benzo[1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-amide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-3-(2-morpholin-4-ylethoxy)-benzamide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-4-pyridin-4-ylbenzamide
- 3-Cyano-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 2-Fluoro-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-3-trifluoromethyl-benzamide

- 4-Aminomethyl-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3-Methoxy-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- Biphenyl-3-carboxylic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-amide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-isonicotinamide
- 2,6-Dichloro-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-isonicotinamide
- 3,5-Dibromo-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-ylthiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3-Fluoro-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-ylthiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-3-trifluoromethyl-benzamide
- 2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 3-Bromo-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-ylthiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3-Chloro-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-ylthiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-4-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-{3-[4-(4-Cyano-phenyl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-4-methyl-phenyl}-4-(4-methylpiperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide

- 4-[1-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 4-(1-Methoxy-ethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-{4-Methyl-3-[4-(5-methyl-pyridin-3-yl)-thiazol-2-ylamino]-phenyl}-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-benzamide
- 3-Iodo-4-(4-methyl-piperazin-1-ylmethyl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3,5-Dibromo-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-[(3-morpholin-4-yl-propylamino)-methyl]-benzamide
- 3-Dimethylamino-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- 3-(4-Methyl-piperazin-1-yl)-N-[4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-benzamide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-3-morpholin-4-ylbenzamide
- Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-amide
- 5-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenylcarbonyl]-pentanoic acid ethyl ester
- 1-Methyl-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-amide
- 4-tert-Butyl-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-amide
- N-[4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-4-morpholin-4-ylbutyramide
- [4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-thiazol-2-ylamino)-phenyl]-carbamic acid isobutyl ester
- 2-(2-methyl-5-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)phenyl-4-(3-pyridyl)-thiazole

14. (Original) A method for treating type II diabetes, obesity and related disorders comprising administering to a human in need of such treatment a compound that is a selective, potent and non toxic inhibitor of activated c-kit obtainable by a screening method which comprises:

a) bringing into contact (i) activated c-kit and (ii) at least one compound to be tested; under conditions allowing the components (i) and (ii) to form a complex,

b) selecting compounds that inhibit activated c-kit,

c) testing and selecting a subset of compounds identified in step b), which are unable to promote death dependent cells cultured in presence of IL-3.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the screening method further comprises the step consisting of testing and selecting a subset of compounds identified in step b) that are inhibitors of mutant activated c-kit, which are also capable of inhibiting SCF- activated c-kit wild.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein activated c-kit is SCF-activated c-kit wild in step a).

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 16~~, claim 14, wherein putative inhibitors are tested at a concentration above 10  $\mu$ M in step a).

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 16~~, claim 14, wherein IL-3 is preferably present in the culture media of dependent cells at a concentration comprised between 0.5 and 10 ng/ml, preferably between 1 to 5 ng/ml.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein IL-3 dependent cells are selected from the group consisting of mast cells, transfected mast cells, BaF3 and IC-2.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 19~~, claim 14, wherein the extent to which component (ii) inhibits activated c-kit is measured *in vitro* or *in vivo*.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 20~~, claim 14, further comprising the step consisting of testing and selecting compounds capable of inhibiting c-kit wild at concentration below 1  $\mu$ M.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 17 or 21~~, claim 17, wherein the testing is performed *in vitro* or *in vivo*.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 22~~, claim 14, wherein the inhibition of mutant- activated c-kit and/or c-kit wild is measured using standard biochemical techniques such as immunoprecipitation and western blot.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 22~~, claim 14, wherein the amount of c-kit phosphorylation is measured.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 14 to 24~~, claim 14, wherein identified and selected compounds are potent, selective and non-toxic c-kit wild inhibitors.

26. (Original) A method for treating type II diabetes, obesity and related disorders comprising administering to a human in need of such treatment a c-kit inhibitor obtainable by a screening method comprising:

a) performing a proliferation assay with cells expressing a mutant c-kit (for example in the transphosphorylase domain), which mutant is a permanent activated c-kit, with a plurality of test compounds to identify a subset of candidate compounds targeting activated c-kit, each having an  $IC_{50} < 10 \mu M$  by measuring the extent of cell death,

b) performing a proliferation assay with cells expressing c-kit wild said subset of candidate compounds identified in step (a), said cells being IL-3 dependent cells cultured in presence of IL-3, to identify a subset of candidate compounds targeting specifically c- kit,

c) performing a proliferation assay with cells expressing c-kit, with the subset of compounds identified in step b) and selecting a subset of candidate compounds targeting c-kit wild, each having an  $IC_{50} < 10 \mu M$ , preferably an  $IC_{50} < 1 \mu M$ , by measuring the extent of cell death.



27. (Original) A method according to claim 26, wherein the extent of cell death is measured by 3H thymidine incorporation, the trypan blue exclusion method or flow cytometry with propidium iodide.

28. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 1 to 27~~ claim 1 for preventing, delaying the onset treating type II diabetes and obesity in human.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of claims 1 to 27~~ claim 1 for preventing, delaying the onset and/or treating of hypercholesterolemia, hyperglycemia, hypertension, endothelial dysfunction, insulin resistance, and vascular remodelling.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) A composition suitable for oral administration comprising a compound capable of depleting mast cells, preferably a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, more particularly a c-kit inhibitor for treating for preventing, delaying the onset and/or treating type II diabetes and obesity including hypercholesterolemia, hyperglycemia, hypertension, endothelial dysfunction, insulin resistance, and vascular remodelling.

32. (Original) A composition according to claim 31 suitable for intravenous, intramuscular, intraarterial, intramedullary, intrathecal, intraventricular, transdermal, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, enteral, sublingual, or rectal administration.